

March 19, 1974

is now open to you for the amendment for which you proposed. This is not my rule change. This merely went through our committee just like a bill goes through your Miscellaneous Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, I just want to touch briefly on the point raised by Senator Cavanaugh. I, for one, as a member of the Budget Committee, would think it would be a grave error to allow the change of the wording in the bill by a simple majority of those voting and require 25 votes to change the monetary amounts because these two items are closely inter-related. It would be.....

(End of Belt #11)

(Begin Belt #12)

analogous to allowing a wheel to be taken off of a car that's speeding down the road. If you want to take the wheel off, you'd better stop the car first. These things are very closely intertwined and I think both the programs and the cash should be treated equally no matter what you do...they've got to be treated equally. And I...if I understand Senator Duis correctly, this is his interpretation and I...therefore....again continue to support the amendment and the bill. And as far as the Budget Committee being wiser than others, I don't think we think we're any wiser. Most people don't want on the committee and they shove off the people who are foolish enough to serve on the crazy thing and I think we put in a lot of time and just to play games off the floor and say hell, we know more than they do, I question this.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simpson....IS NEXT to speak. We're speaking only on the Duis amendment to the rules change, which has been proposed. Senator Simpson.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Listening to this and it seems important to me that in this area especially that we should have 25 votes and it has nothing to do with anybody's wisdom as to an Appropriations Committee or any other committee. I think that when we're changing money amounts in a bill, then wanting support for this bill on Final Reading, that we should not be putting in things that don't have the majority of the people voting for them. So I think this is very important. I would feel further we should include the philosophy, also that's written into budget bills because this sometimes is as important or more important than the actual money amounts and when you get right down to it, technically I think that it would be great if we did expand this to all bills on General File. Because often times an amendment is stuck on with an ulterior purpose trying to kill a bill or water it down simply because you're opposed to the bill and often times it would be much better if they had a majority of the members who were going to have to vote or pass to kill this bill be in accord with the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson, are you passing? Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I handed this suggested amendment to the Clerk late in the last session and it was after a day somebody termed